

OOTORI ET AL. - 10/757,513
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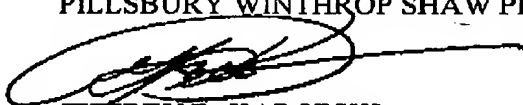
REMARKS

Claim 12 has been amended. No new claims have been added. Accordingly, after entry of this Preliminary Amendment, claims 1-12 will remain pending. In view of the Applicants' election of Species III, claims 9-12 are currently under consideration. Should a generic claim be allowed by the Examiner, the Applicants understand that they are entitled to consideration of the remaining claims to determine if any of them may be allowed together with the generic claim. Should a generic claim not be found to be allowable by the Examiner, the Applicants respectfully reserve the right to pursue the remaining species in one or more divisional patent applications, as appropriate.

Please charge any fees associated with the submission of this paper to Deposit Account Number 033975. The Commissioner for Patents is also authorized to credit any over payments to the above-referenced Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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